

# GREAT DEVELOPMENT OF OIL FIELD IN DIXIE

As the year draws to a close, a look in review over the progress made in the development of the mineral resources of Washington county, and more particularly that of the oil fields near Virgin City, is most satisfactory. A good beginning with most encouraging results has been made in the development of these oil beds, notwithstanding the delays and difficulties incident to the comparative isolation of the field and the financial storm which broke just at the time the exploitation of the fields was to begin in earnest.

## Where the Oil Crops Out.

Previous to the development work inaugurated in the spring, the prospective value of the Virgin City oil field rested principally on the outward indications of the oil-bearing horizon as it is exposed in the Virgin River canyon near the falls, where the river drops down to the St. George valley below. Here are found exposed the oil-bearing sandstones and limestones similar to certain of the more important oil-bearing beds of the Ohio and Pennsylvania oil fields. These beds have an aggregate thickness of 600 feet. It is here also that are to be seen the principal oil seeps of the district, petroleum dripping from the oil-bearing sands and shales saturated with oil and burning freely.

These outward indications, together with the formation and conformations of the ground were sufficiently alluring to induce successful and experienced oil men to begin the work of exploring the field and seek petroleum pools on the dip of the strata.

## First of the Oil Wells.

The bringing in of No. 1 well by the Virgin River Oil & Development company in July—a well affording seventy-five barrels of oil per day—gave the first impetus to the development and exploitation of the oil fields of Washington county. The development of this producing well, under the direction of Messrs. Wilcox and Hallinan, was proof to the oil men of California and elsewhere, many of whom were watching the results of this trial boring, that the Virgin river country is an oil country.

## Expert Oil Men Flock to Utah.

Expert oil men from California and eastern and southern states rushed into the Virgin City country to confirm the strike. They gave it and the surrounding country a critical and exhaustive examination, with the conclusion that a new oil field of economic importance and considerable area was discovered in this southern country.

## Sixteen Rigs on the Ground.

These men, alert and quick to grasp the opportunity, rushed rigs to the ground in the vicinity of Virgin City, the known oil country. Sixteen rigs in all have been brought into this district, representing an expenditure for drilling apparatus well beyond the \$100,000 mark. These rigs were ordered and shipped as quickly as local conditions would permit. Delays and difficulties incident to the securing of lumber for derricks were encountered, such delays as are common to new establishments in districts remote from the highways of commerce. However, the lumber problem is solved now by the better facilities of the sawmill men on Kolob mountain and the establishment of a lumber yard at Virgin City by Messrs. Miner and Starr.

## On the Ground Floor.

The Virgin River Oil & Development company immediately upon striking oil and confirming their convictions of the possibilities of the field, ordered two additional rigs from Los Angeles and pumping apparatus also for their No. 1 well, with the object of supplying the other rigs with oil for fuel in their drilling operations. This they have done throughout the fall. They have placed these rigs, one about two miles up North creek from the original well, and the other about one-half mile from their first trial boring. Drilling at the upper well is in charge of Mr. Hallinan. A strike of oil is reported at this well. Drilling at the lower well is under the direction of Mr. Wilcox.

## Star & Crescent Is Busy.

To the Star & Crescent company, an association of Salt Lake City and Cedar City, Utah, men, is due the credit of bringing in the second well of the district. This well has not been put down through the upper oil-bearing stratum, but the flow of oil is strong. The specific gravity of the oil from this well is said to be 30 degrees Baumé. This company has extensive holdings of land, and is at the present time engaged in performing the annual labor on their other holdings required by law.

Among those who are actively interested in the Star & Crescent company is Dr. Middleton of Salt Lake City, who is president of the company.

## Dixie Company Pushes Work.

The Dixie Oil & Land company, in which J. R. Clark of Salt Lake City is the moving spirit, has located its first well about two miles above Virgin City on North creek. A heavy flow of water was encountered when nearing the upper oil stratum. This rig is down at this writing waiting for casing to prevent a heavy overhead column of water which might prevent a flow of oil when the proper depth is reached. The Smith-Clark-Porter syndicate, under the name of the Southern Utah Oil company, is drilling with a Star rig about one mile north of Virgin City. This rig is down temporarily waiting for repairs for broken machinery.

## Work of California Experts.

The Martin Development company of Bakersfield, Cal., associated with which is David Martin, one of the most expert and successful operators of the coast. This company is drilling the Smith-Affleck ground on North creek. Drilling has just begun on this ground. The Arizona-Utah Oil company has just begun to drill in the vicinity of Grafton, some ten miles up the Virgin river above Virgin City.

## Kern-Utah Has a Well.

The Kern-Utah Oil company has begun drilling its first well on North creek some two and a half miles above Virgin City, and in the near vicinity of the Dixie Oil & Land company's well. The upper oil stratum should be reached in this well in a very few days. The Paraffin-Virgin Oil company is drilling on the Downey ground north-east of Virgin City one mile.

## "Angels" Are on the Ground.

The Los Angeles-Utah company, composed of capitalists from the City of Angels, among whom are Mayor Harper and George Montgomery of Nevada mining fame, are drilling well

up North creek. This crowd also are drilling at Little creek, southeast of Virgin, and there is an apparently authentic account of a recent oil strike at this well. This is locally known as the Sloan well.

The Virgin City Oil company has located its first well a little way from the original well of the district. This is locally known as the McKenzie well. This well is reported to have oil.

## Other Companies in the Field.

Some of the other companies in the field are:

The Miller-Hickey and Lambert syndicate.

The Bakersfield-Virgin Oil company.

The Utah Southern, whose rig is now at Lund station, to be moved to the field at once.

The Mammoth Oil company.

A company of Salt Lake, in which H. C. Doolittle of the Bingham & New Haven Mining company, is the leading spirit, have taken over a group of claims near Virgin City, and will put a rig on this ground at an early date.

The Snyder syndicate of Salt Lake City, with holdings in the known oil zone, will begin active development at once.

## Right in the City Limits.

The Goldfield-Virgin Oil company have located their first venture in the oil fields near the town limits of Virgin City. This company has large holdings in the district, and have a prospect on the field probably the best rig money can purchase. A heavy flow of gas was encountered in this well, and almost immediately the tools were lost.

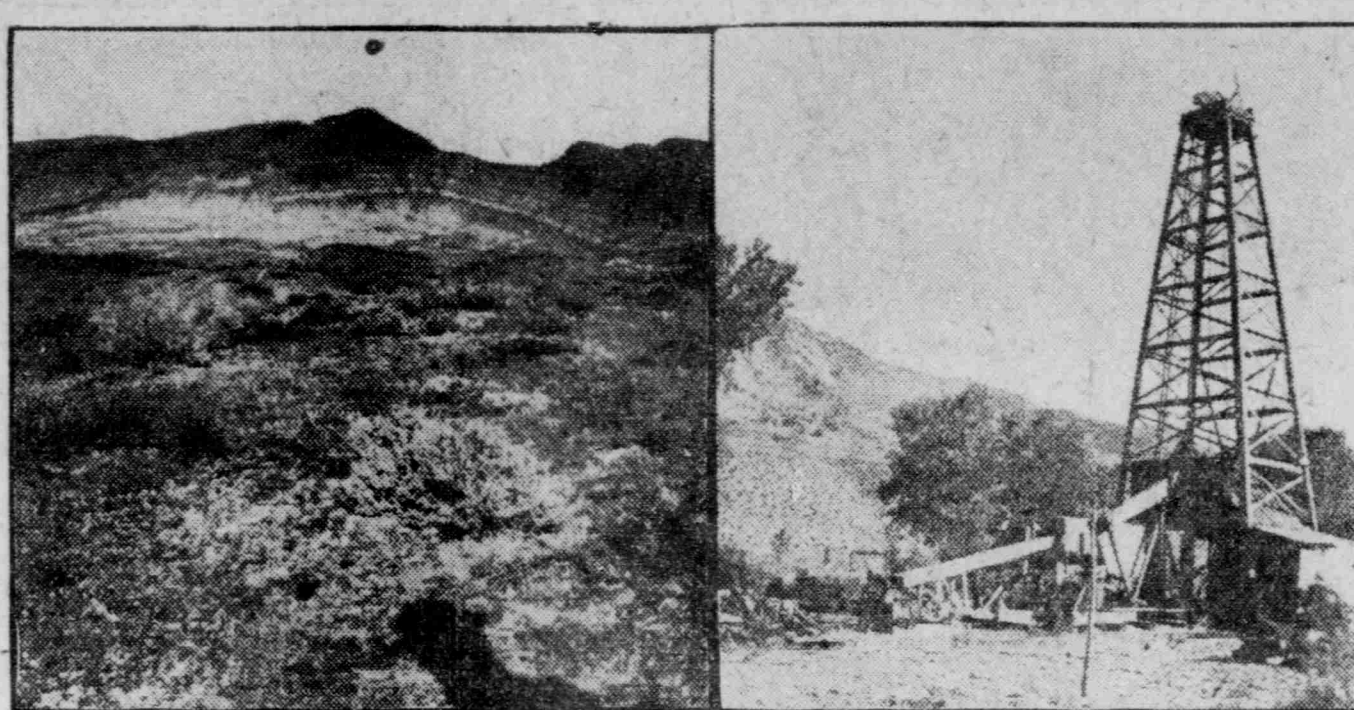
## Anticlinical structure in St. George valley near Har-

risburg. This has an important bearing on the distribution of petroleum pools.

Fishing operations were begun to recover the tools, but at this date they still remain in the well. On the recovery of the tools the well will be pushed

down to the deep, penetrating all the known oil strata. Captain Johns and Frank Bonneau of Goldfield are the principals in this company.

Such, in brief, is a review of the development work which has been done and the results achieved in the oil fields of Washington county.



Anticlinical structure in St. George valley near Har-  
risburg. This has an important bearing on the distribution of petroleum pools.

Rig and derrick No. 1 of the Virgin River Development Company. Original well of the district.

## MANY INVESTORS TURN TO CITY REAL ESTATE

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acres blocks just across the street from the federal building. And now he has steel work laid and much of the blocks that will set a new standard for the construction of this kind, both as to height, style and construction.

## Still Further to the South.

On the corner below, Main and Fourth South, the site of one of the well known Walker homesteads, Mr. Newhouse has the ground cleared for a magnificent hotel, and on the corner above, Main and Third South, across the street from the Walker store, that was considered out of town some years ago, Mrs. Mary Judge has well along toward completion, the splendid seven-story building that is to be known as the Railroad Exchange.

These important operations on South Main, and the other operations that are certain to follow on Main and nearby streets, have exerted a powerful influence throughout the year in pulling business to the south, and this influence has been felt by every real estate dealer in the city. Prices on business property and prospective business property have advanced radically in that section of the city. The intersection of Main and Third South, and this influence has been felt by every real estate dealer in the city.

## The Business Center of Town.

The business center of any city is the resultant of a large number of forces exerted in different directions. This is particularly true of Salt Lake City. Every railroad station and the allied influences are pulling westward. The Mormon people continually pulling to the north, where their chief interests are centered. This was strikingly illustrated in its fight made to locate the federal building on the corner of South Temple and Main streets, almost under the shadow of the temple. The best residence district of the city is pulling with great force to the east. The fine agricultural and fruit section, with its rapidly increasing population, is pulling with ever-increasing force to the south.

Up to this time the intersection of Main and Second South streets has been generally recognized as the business center of Salt Lake City. The forces enumerated above seem to be so nicely balanced that it is not likely that there will be any revolutionary change in the center of business in some years to come. The city is so fortunately situated that where nothing to retard expansion in any direction, and in this particular Salt Lake City has a vast advantage over most other cities, especially those located on bodies of water.

## Expanding in All Directions.

Salt Lake City is expanding in all directions and there is a good demand for real estate in every section of the city. The business district is spreading out in the form of a circle, and while the movement may seem to be more pronounced in some directions than in others, the growth is clearly noticeable in all directions.

The same may be said as to the residence districts. Of course it has come to be recognized by all that Brigham Street is the finest residence street in the city.

## Investors and Speculators.

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\$230 per foot—165x165-foot corner on West Temple, east and north from the best business street, one block west of Newhouse buildings, and two-thirds block west from his \$5,000,000 proposed hotel. A good speculation.

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We also can show large profits to investors and speculators in suburban plots. We never recommend these propositions to our clients without a reasonable showing of 100 per cent or more profit in sight within three years. Others have and are now making above returns. Several good buys in this class.

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## A Holiday Luncheon

BY CORNELIA C. BEDFORD.

This is a comparatively simple luncheon, much of which can be prepared the day before and for this reason will appeal to the housekeeper who has one general maid and must personally attend to a part of the cooking as well as the details of the dining room. The quantities here given are sufficient for eight persons.

Bacon Savories  
Chicken Consomme in Cups  
Smelts  
Creamed Potatoes in Cases  
Newport Balls on Casserole  
Apple Fritters  
Spiced Prunes  
Cheese and Celery Salad  
Cream Timbales  
Pineapple Sauce  
Fancy Cakes  
Coffee

Salted Nuts  
Olives  
Bon Bons

Place a wire rack on a dripping pan and on it spread sixteen water thin slices of bacon. Put in a slack oven that as much fat as possible may try out before the bacon becomes lightly colored. Set aside until cold, then chop fine with a sharp knife. Cut eight very thin slices of stale bread in circles and quickly saute light brown in a little hot butter. When cold spread with butter which has been creamed and mixed with a very little made mustard and paprika—enough to give a good taste. Divide the chopped bacon and put a portion on each slice. Make a circle half way from the edge with capers and in the center put a small ripe olive or a pimiento. Serve each

on a lace paper doily on a small plate. After cleaning a fowl, cut it up, putting such portions of meat as can be readily boned through the chopper. Put bones and meat in a stew pan, cover with five pints of cold water, heat slowly and simmer for four hours. Add salt and pepper to season with a cupful of celery, a sprig of parsley, two tablespoonfuls of chopped carrot and one teaspoonful of chopped onion and simmer an hour longer, then strain through double cheesecloth and put away over night. Remove all fat and reheat, lightly deepening the coloring with a drop or two of caramel.

Select large sized smelts, allowing two or three to a person, according to size. Have them cleaned through the gills, then wash thoroughly and dry on a cloth. Dip each in slightly beaten eggs, then roll in fine stale bread crumbs. Fry golden brown in deep smoking hot fat, drain on soft paper. If to be served at the table, pile on a napkin, add a hot plat-ter and garnish with tarts of parsley.

The sauce tartare calls for about a cupful and a half of thick mayonnaise. Chop fine a tablespoonful and a half of parsley (with a few tarragon leaves if procurable), mix with a tablespoonful of capers and chopped cucumber pickle and pound all to a pulp. Drain off the watery juice and mix the pulp with the mayonnaise. Pass with the fish.

Make a cream sauce with three tablespoonfuls each of butter and flour, a pint

## Well Pleased With the Outlook.

The close of the year finds all the operators thoroughly satisfied with the showing that has been made thus far, sanguine of even better results in the very near future and optimistic of the development of the Washington county oil field into a producing field, with rail or pipe line transportation, or both, and that in a very short time. Prices of land remain firm at the going prices set during the activity in oil land deals which followed the bringing in of No. 1 well by Messrs. Wilcox and Hallinan.

## Reach Out From Virgin City.

A disposition to feel out from the known oil field at Virgin City is evidenced at this time. Drilling operations have been commenced at Grafton, some ten miles away from Virgin City. The strike of oil at Little creek no doubt will encourage operators to strike out and prospect for other petroleum pools in various parts of the county.

The Smith-Clark-Porter syndicate have already announced their intention to place a heavy standard rig on their findings in the vicinity of Canadian rapids, near the Arizona line. This is some fifteen miles from Virgin City.

## Big Demand for Oil Land.

California operators have recently made purchases of oil land in the vicinity of Berry's Springs in the St. George valley on the east dip of the Purgatory anticline, with the intention of developing this ground at once.

Eastern capitalists, attracted by the pronounced anticlinical structure in the St. George valley, and cognizant of the

importance of this in the distribution of petroleum pools, are resuming negotiations for ground in the valley which were called off at the time of the panic.

## How to Reach Oil Fields.

Facilities for reaching the oil country are good via Modena to St. George by stage, or Farnsworth's hack line, or via Lund and the Kimball hack line to Virgin City. Freightage teams are plentiful and prices for hauling are reasonable.

Among the things which will be accomplished early in the new year is the building of a road to Shein City for automobile service. From Shein City to Acoma, New, the grade built by the Utah & Eastern Copper company for traction hauling will be utilized.

## Analysis of the First Oil.

An analysis of the oil from No. 1 well of the Virgin River Oil & Development company furnished by Mr. Wilcox is as follows:

	Per cent.
Gases and water	2.1
Kerosene	11.5
Signal and kerosene	9.9
Light lubricating	56.9
Heavy lubricating	11.1
Paraffin	2.4
Residue (chiefly asphalt)	1.1
Total	100.0

The new year brings promises of great industrial progress in Dixie in the development of its mineral resources, and a release from the burden of isolation from rail transportation—events to which it has long looked forward.

very thick batter. Drop by small spoonfuls in deep, smoking fat and drain for a moment on soft paper. Serve these as a vegetable.

The spiced prunes are served with the meat course, as a relish. Wash a pound and soak for twenty-four hours in just enough water to cover. Drain and put in a double boiler, add a syrup made with one pound of brown sugar and a cupful of vinegar, also a teaspoonful of whole cloves and broken cinnamon tied in a bit of this muslin. Keep the water in the lower boiler just below the simmering point for hours, then cool.

Lane croquette mold with a half-inch layer of cream cheese, slightly softened with thick, sweet cream. Fill the center with a celery and nut salad and cover with more cheese. Turn out carefully on a nest of lettuce leaves and serve with mayonnaise and salt. Make a Bavarian cream and mold it in wetted timbale molds, putting a circle of paraffin in the bottom for convenience in molding. Turn out and pour over each a sauce made by thickening pineapple syrup with arrowroot, chilling and adding chopped pineapple.

## HE COULD NOT TALK.

(Yonkers Statesman.)

Mrs. Flatbush—The girl Margaret we used to have and who got married seems disappointed.

Mr. Flatbush—What has disappointed her?

"Well, her husband talks in his sleep, but she can never understand him, she says."

"Of course not. She married a street car conductor, didn't she?"

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In the sentiment of the season, we wish all our customers and all others who have not yet become our customers, a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

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